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AUTHOR Curtis, John W.
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ABSTRACT

This report presents information on students who attended Germanna Community College and applied to one of the public baccalaureate institutions in Virginia between the years of 1990 and 1999. Admission, enrollment, and success after transfer are all analyzed. However, the tables are incomplete because not all colleges submitted the necessary data. Thus, some differences in tables may be due to this lack of information, rather than actual differences in transfer success. Highlights include: (1) 1,384 Germanna students applied to four-year institutions during this ten-year period, including 269 to Virginia Commonwealth University, 227 to James Madison University, and 166 to George Mason University; (2) 90% of these applicants were white, 5.3% were African-American, 2% were Asian, 1.3% Hispanic, and 1.4% "other"; (3) 59.8% of the applicants were female; (4) Virginia Commonwealth University appears to have admitted the highest number of applicants: 211; (5) one year after transferring, 80% (n=125) of the students at Virginia Commonwealth University were in good standing, compared with only 67% (n=76) at George Mason University; and (6) in total, 79% (n=748) of all students who transferred to a four-year institution were in good standing. Where a university code was not provided, "good standing" was defined as a grade point average (GPA) of at least 2.0. (CJW)

Germanna Community College Transfer Student Success, 1990-99: Revised Tables

John W. Curtis
September 2000

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Germanna Community College

Transfer Student Success, 1990-99: Revised Tables

John W. Curtis, Director of Institutional Research and Planning
September 2000

This report presents information on students who attended Germanna and applied to one of the public baccalaureate institutions in Virginia between 1990 and 1999. The report provides information on admission, enrollment, and success after transfer. All data presented in this report is based on information supplied by the transfer institutions. These tables are incomplete, however, because the two most significant transfer institutions (James Madison University and Mary Washington College) do not supply information on students who applied, but did not enroll. Other institutions may have restricted the information supplied to students who had completed a certain number of credits, or to students who gave their permission. Only two institutions have supplied data for the 1999-2000 year. Therefore, some differences in the following tables may be due to gaps in the information supplied by the transfer colleges, rather than actual differences in transfer student success.

Section I – Transfer Admission and Enrollment

Table 1.
Descriptive characteristics of transfer applicants, 1990-99

| Transfer School | Years of Data | Number | |
|----------------------------------|------------------|-------------|----------------|
| College of William and Mary | 8 | 17 | 1.2% |
| Christopher Newport University | 3 | 9 | 0.7% |
| George Mason University | 7 | 166 | 12.0% |
| James Madison University* | 9 | 227 | 16.4% |
| Mary Washington College* | 6 | 181 | 13.1% |
| Old Dominion University | 6 | 109 | 7.9% |
| Radford University | 7 | 181 | 13.1% |
| University of Virginia | 5 | 53 | 3.8% |
| University of Virginia-Wise | 5 | 12 | 0.9% |
| Virginia Commonwealth University | 9 | 269 | 19.4% |
| Virginia Tech (VPISU) | 9 | 160 | 11.6% |
| All transfer applicants | | 1384 | 100.1 % |

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*Note: James Madison University and Mary Washington College did not provide data on non-enrollees.

Table 1. (Continued)
Descriptive characteristics of transfer applicants, 1990-99

Race/Ethnicity

| | | | | | |
|------------------|------|-------|---|-----|-------|
| White | 1245 | 90.0% | GCC Graduate | 600 | 43.4% |
| African-American | 73 | 5.3% | GCC Non-Graduate | 784 | 56.6% |
| Asian | 28 | 2.0% | GCC Program | | |
| Hispanic | 18 | 1.3% | Transfer | 693 | 50.1% |
| Other | 20 | 1.4% | Occupational | 94 | 6.8% |
| Female | 827 | 59.8% | Unclassified | 597 | 43.1% |
| Male | 557 | 40.2% | <i>*Totals may not add to 100% due to rounding.</i> | | |

Analysis – According to the available data, and correcting for incomplete reporting, the primary destinations for Germanna transfer applicants are (in order): Mary Washington College; VCU; James Madison U.; Radford U.; and George Mason U. The significance of this tabulation is that Mary Washington is no longer the nearly exclusive destination for Germanna transfer students that it may have been in previous years.

Minority students are underrepresented among the transfer applicants, as they make up approximately 15% of the overall Germanna student body but only 10% of transfer applicants. Women are also somewhat underrepresented. Significantly in terms of advising, the majority of transfer applicants did *not* graduate from Germanna, and nearly half were *not* enrolled in transfer degree programs.

Table 2.
Acceptance and enrollment rates for transfer applicants, 1990-99

| Transfer School | Applied | Admitted | | Enrolled | |
|----------------------------------|----------------|-----------------|--------------|-----------------|--------------|
| College of William and Mary | 17 | 9 | 52.9% | 4 | 23.5% |
| Christopher Newport University | 9 | 8 | 88.9% | 7 | 77.8% |
| George Mason University | 166 | 141 | 85.0% | 113 | 68.1% |
| James Madison University* | n.a. | n.a. | n.a. | 227 | n.a. |
| Mary Washington College* | n.a. | n.a. | n.a. | 181 | n.a. |
| Old Dominion University | 109 | 102 | 93.6% | 60 | 55.0% |
| Radford University | 181 | 153 | 85.6% | 98 | 54.1% |
| University of Virginia | 53 | 37 | 69.8% | 31 | 58.5% |
| University of Virginia-Wise | 12 | 11 | 91.7% | 7 | 58.3% |
| Virginia Commonwealth University | 269 | 211 | 78.4% | 152 | 56.5% |
| Virginia Tech (VPISU) | 160 | 67 | 41.9% | 64 | 40.0% |
| All transfer applicants | 976 | 741 | 75.9% | 536 | 54.9% |

**Note:* James Madison University and Mary Washington College did not provide data on non-enrollees; their enrollees are listed here for informational purposes only, and are not included in the overall admission rate. Not all institutions provided data for all years.

Analysis – The admission rate analysis is seriously limited, in that two primary application destinations (Mary Washington College and James Madison U.) did not provide data on students who applied but did not enroll. Table 2 shows that approximately 76% of transfer applicants were accepted at the institutions which provided data. Acceptance rates for The University of Virginia and Virginia Tech were lower.

Table 3.
Acceptance and enrollment rates,
by applicant race/ethnicity

| Race/Ethnicity | Applied | Admitted | | Enrolled | |
|-----------------------|----------------|-----------------|--------------|-----------------|--------------|
| White | 867 | 655 | 75.5% | 470 | 54.2% |
| Other | 109 | 86 | 78.9% | 66 | 60.6% |
| All applicants | 976 | 741 | 75.9% | 536 | 54.9% |

**Note:* Tables in this section include data only from the senior colleges which provided student identifiable data for both enrollees and non-enrollees, allowing for a match with GCC enrollment data.

Analysis – Table 3 does not indicate a significant difference in transfer admission rates by the applicant's racial or ethnic background (O^2 test at $p < .05$). (Categories other than "White" were combined for the statistical analysis due to the small number of cases.)

Table 4.
Acceptance and enrollment rates,
by applicant gender

| Gender | Applied | Admitted | | Enrolled | |
|-----------------------|----------------|-----------------|--------------|-----------------|--------------|
| Female | 555 | 437 | 78.7% | 304 | 54.8% |
| Male | 421 | 304 | 72.2% | 232 | 55.1% |
| All applicants | 976 | 741 | 75.9% | 536 | 54.9% |

Analysis – Table 4 indicates that female applicants were more likely to be accepted for admission. This difference is statistically significant, although it is not large. Enrollment rates were virtually identical.

Table 5.
Acceptance and enrollment rates,
by Germanna Graduate Status

| Germanna Graduate Status | Applied | Admitted | | Enrolled | |
|---------------------------------|----------------|-----------------|--------------|-----------------|--------------|
| Graduate | 417 | 319 | 76.5% | 217 | 52.0% |
| Non-Graduate | 559 | 422 | 75.5% | 319 | 57.1% |
| All transfer applicants | 976 | 741 | 75.9% | 536 | 54.9% |

Analysis – Table 5 does not indicate a statistically significant difference in transfer admission rates by Germanna graduate status. However, this is a significant negative finding, in that students who graduated were *not* more likely to be accepted. A more definitive analysis is presented in Table 7 below, where graduation status is combined with the type of curriculum.

Table 6.
Acceptance and enrollment rates,
by Germanna program

| Germanna Program | Applied | Admitted | | Enrolled | |
|--------------------------------|----------------|-----------------|--------------|-----------------|--------------|
| Transfer | 506 | 372 | 73.5% | 260 | 51.4% |
| Occupational | 92 | 73 | 79.3% | 51 | 55.4% |
| Unclassified | 378 | 296 | 78.3% | 225 | 59.5% |
| All transfer applicants | 976 | 741 | 75.9% | 536 | 54.9% |

**Note:* This table includes data only from the senior colleges which provided student identifiable data for both enrollees and non-enrollees, allowing for a match with GCC enrollment data. "Occupational" includes certificate programs.

Analysis – Table 6 indicates that transfer admission acceptance rates were essentially equivalent for applicants enrolled in all three types of Germanna programs. The differences shown in the table are not statistically significant. However, this table does not include consideration of whether the student graduated from Germanna, a factor which is added into Table 7.

Table 7.
Transfer admission and enrollment,
by Germanna program and graduate status

| GCC Program | Graduates | | | | | Non-Graduates | | | | |
|----------------|-----------|----------|-------|----------|-------|---------------|----------|-------|----------|-------|
| | Applied | Admitted | | Enrolled | | Applied | Admitted | | Enrolled | |
| Transfer | 274 | 202 | 73.7% | 133 | 48.5% | 232 | 170 | 73.2% | 127 | 54.7% |
| Occupational | 65 | 55 | 84.7% | 38 | 58.5% | 27 | 18 | 66.6% | 13 | 48.1% |
| Unclassified | 78 | 62 | 79.5% | 46 | 59.0% | 300 | 234 | 78.0% | 179 | 59.7% |
| All applicants | 417 | 319 | 76.5% | 217 | 52.0% | 559 | 422 | 75.5% | 319 | 57.1% |

**Note:* This table includes data only from the senior colleges which provided student identifiable data for both enrollees and non-enrollees, allowing for a match with Germanna enrollment data. "Occupational" includes certificate programs.

Analysis – Combining the effect of Germanna graduation and curriculum, Table 7 produces one specific difference in admission rates. Among occupational students, those who graduated

were more successful in gaining admission, and more likely to enroll. This was not the case among transfer graduates, which is another important negative finding.

Table 8.
Transfer admission and enrollment, by GCC graduate status

| Transfer School | GCC Graduates | | | GCC Non-Graduates | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------|------------------|------------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------|
| | Applied | Admitted | Enrolled | Applied | Admitted | Enrolled |
| College of William and Mary | 11 | 4 36.4% | 1 9.1% | 6 | 5 83.3% | 3 50.0% |
| Christopher Newport University | 2 | 2 100% | 2 100% | 7 | 6 85.7% | 5 71.4% |
| George Mason University | 95 | 83 87.4% | 64 67.4% | 71 | 58 81.7% | 49 69.0% |
| James Madison University* | n.a. | n.a. | 38* n.a. | n.a. | n.a. | 189* n.a. |
| Mary Washington College* | n.a. | n.a. | 144* n.a. | n.a. | n.a. | 37* n.a. |
| Old Dominion University | 56 | 54 96.4% | 33 58.9% | 53 | 48 90.6% | 27 50.9% |
| Radford University | 42 | 39 92.9% | 16 38.1% | 139 | 116 83.5% | 82 59.0% |
| University of Virginia | 29 | 22 75.8% | 17 58.6% | 24 | 15 62.5% | 14 58.3% |
| University of Virginia-Wise | 3 | 3 100% | 2 66.7% | 9 | 8 88.9% | 5 55.6% |
| Virginia Commonwealth University | 107 | 81 75.7% | 55 51.4% | 162 | 130 80.2% | 97 59.9% |
| Virginia Tech (VPISU) | 67 | 27 40.3% | 25 37.3% | 93 | 40 43.0% | 39 41.9% |
| All transfer applicants | 417 | 319 76.5% | 217 52.0% | 559 | 422 75.5% | 319 57.1% |

*Note: James Madison University and Mary Washington College did not provide data on non-enrollees; their enrollees are listed here for informational purposes only, and are not included in the overall admission rate. Not all institutions provided data for all years.

Table 8 indicates some specific difference between institutions in the admission of Germanna transfers. Graduates were somewhat more likely to be admitted than were non-graduates at George Mason, ODU, University of Virginia, and Radford. However, graduates were *not* more likely to be admitted at Virginia Tech or VCU. Based on the incomplete data provided, transfers to JMU were primarily non-graduates, while transfers to Mary Washington were primarily graduates.

Section II – Academic Status After Transfer

The tables in this section include data only from the students who actually enrolled at a senior college, matched with their Germanna enrollment history. This section presents two indicators of academic status after transfer, academic standing and GPA.

Table 9.
Academic status one year after transfer*

| Transfer School | Enrolled | In Good Standing | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|--------------|
| College of William and Mary | 4 | 4 | 100% |
| Christopher Newport University | 7 | 7 | 100% |
| George Mason University | 113 | 76 | 67.3% |
| James Madison University | 227 | 197 | 86.8% |
| Mary Washington College | 181 | 136 | 75.1% |
| Old Dominion University | 60 | 43 | 71.7% |
| Radford University | 99 | 77 | 77.8% |
| University of Virginia | 31 | 27 | 87.1% |
| University of Virginia-Wise | 7 | 6 | 85.7% |
| Virginia Commonwealth University | 155 | 125 | 80.6% |
| Virginia Tech (VPISU) | 64 | 50 | 78.1% |
| All transfer students | 948 | 748 | 78.9% |

**Note:* Academic standing is defined by the transfer institution; however, most institutions did not provide an actual “academic standing” code in their data. Where this is not provided, “Good Standing” is defined as a GPA of at least 2.00 at the transfer institution. Academic standing is for the first year of transfer enrollment wherever possible.

Analysis – One indicator of success after transfer is the student’s academic status after completing one year at the destination institution. However, most transfer institutions do not supply an actual data element regarding academic standing; a GPA of 2.00 is used here as a proxy for “good standing”. Overall, Table 9 indicates that 79% of Germanna transfer enrollees were in good standing one year after transfer. At JMU and the University of Virginia, 87% were in good standing. Success rates at ODU (72%) and George Mason (67%) were slightly lower than others.

Table 10.
Academic status one year after transfer,
by Germanna Graduate Status

| Germanna Graduate Status | Good Standing | | Not Good Standing | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|--------------|--------------------------|--------------|
| Graduate | 316 | 79.0% | 84 | 21.0% |
| Non-Graduate | 432 | 78.8% | 116 | 21.2% |
| All transfer students | 748 | 78.9% | 200 | 21.1% |

Analysis – Table 10 indicates that non-graduates were just as likely as graduates to maintain good standing one year after transfer.

Table 11.
Academic status one year after transfer, by GCC graduate status

| Transfer School | GCC Graduates | | | GCC Non-Graduates | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|--------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|--------------|
| | Enrolled | In Good Standing | | Enrolled | In Good Standing | |
| College of William and Mary | 1 | 1 | 100% | 3 | 3 | 100% |
| Christopher Newport University | 2 | 2 | 100% | 5 | 5 | 100% |
| George Mason University | 64 | 46 | 71.9% | 49 | 30 | 61.2% |
| James Madison University | 38 | 34 | 89.5% | 189 | 163 | 86.2% |
| Mary Washington College | 144 | 112 | 77.8% | 37 | 24 | 64.9% |
| Old Dominion University | 33 | 23 | 69.7% | 27 | 20 | 74.1% |
| Radford University | 16 | 13 | 81.3% | 83 | 64 | 77.1% |
| University of Virginia | 17 | 15 | 88.2% | 14 | 12 | 85.7% |
| University of Virginia-Wise | 2 | 1 | 50.0% | 5 | 5 | 100% |
| Virginia Commonwealth University | 55 | 49 | 89.1% | 100 | 76 | 76.0% |
| Virginia Tech (VPISU) | 25 | 19 | 76.0% | 39 | 31 | 79.5% |
| All transfer students | 400 | 316 | 79.0% | 548 | 432 | 78.8% |

Analysis – Overall, graduates and non-graduates showed nearly identical success rates on academic standing after transfer. However, graduates fared somewhat better than non-graduates after one year at George Mason, Mary Washington, and VCU.

**Table 12. Academic status one year after transfer,
by GCC program and graduate status**

| GCC Program | Enrolled | In Good Standing | |
|----------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|--------------|
| Transfer | 447 | 343 | 76.7% |
| Occupational | 53 | 44 | 83.0% |
| Unclassified | 444 | 357 | 80.4% |
| All transfers | 944 | 744 | 78.8% |

| GCC Program | GCC Graduates | | | GCC Non-Graduates | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|--------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|--------------|
| | Enrolled | In Good Standing | | Enrolled | In Good Standing | |
| Transfer | 275 | 214 | 77.8% | 172 | 129 | 75.0% |
| Occupational | 39 | 34 | 87.2% | 14 | 10 | 71.4% |
| Unclassified | 86 | 68 | 79.1% | 358 | 289 | 80.7% |
| All transfers | 400 | 316 | 79.0% | 544 | 428 | 78.7% |

Analysis – Although Table 12 shows slight differences between program categories in the proportion of students in good standing after transfer, the differences do not demonstrate a clear pattern and are not statistically significant. When combined with graduate status, however, one difference does emerge, and it is parallel to that shown in Table 7 for admission: Occupational students who graduated were more likely to maintain good academic standing than were occupational non-graduates.

Table 13.
Academic status (GPA) one year after transfer

| Transfer School | GCC Graduates | | | GCC Non-Graduates | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------|--------------|------------|-------------------|--------------|------------|
| | GCC GPA | Transfer GPA | N | GCC GPA | Transfer GPA | N |
| College of William and Mary | 3.96 | 2.95 | 1 | 3.93 | 3.02 | 3 |
| Christopher Newport University | 2.98 | 2.78 | 2 | 3.14 | 3.08 | 5 |
| George Mason University | 3.11 | 2.50 | 64 | 2.86 | 2.29 | 49 |
| James Madison University | 3.39 | 1.43 | 38 | 3.15 | 2.08 | 189 |
| Mary Washington College | 3.30 | 2.43 | 144 | 3.34 | 2.27 | 37 |
| Old Dominion University | 2.93 | 2.74 | 33 | 3.04 | 2.48 | 27 |
| Radford University | 2.78 | 2.60 | 16 | 2.59 | 2.25 | 83 |
| University of Virginia | 3.57 | 2.32 | 17 | 3.36 | 2.87 | 14 |
| University of Virginia-Wise | 2.93 | 2.88 | 2 | 3.08 | 2.84 | 5 |
| Virginia Commonwealth University | 3.28 | 2.94 | 55 | 3.06 | 2.43 | 100 |
| Virginia Tech (VPISU) | 3.24 | 2.48 | 25 | 3.27 | 2.47 | 39 |
| All transfer students | 3.23 | 2.45 | 400 | 3.04 | 2.29 | 548 |

Analysis – Table 13 indicates that most students experienced a decline in GPA after transfer, as much as one point. The average decline for graduates was 0.79, for non-graduates 0.76. Declines within this range during the first year can be considered a “normal” part of the transfer experience. Among graduates, the largest declines were at JMU (1.96) and University of Virginia (1.25). Among non-graduates, the largest declines were at JMU (1.07) and Mary Washington (1.07). Graduates at ODU, Radford, and VCU experienced smaller declines.



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